the works as per the terms agreed upon had been carried out, they were being asked to put up ceiling to the rooms and also construct compound walls, which was hard upon them. They had undertaken to construct a building to cost only Rs. 10,000; but they had been able to build a structure which had already swallowed up Rs. 12,000. The Member, therefore, requested that Government should themselves provide the ceiling and put up the compound walls, or kindly order early payment of the grant of money in lieu of timber, promised in their letter F. & M. R. No. 645, dated the 28th February 1918, and that Form VI be opened from the beginning of the next school year.

The Member agreed with the views of the other Members who pleaded for increase of pay to teachers in aided schools. The other requests of the Member were that a Lower Grade English school and a Higher Grade Vernacular school for girls be opened at Kayankulam, especially because there were 150 girls in all classes from the Preparatory Class to Form III and 400 girls who were studying in the Higher Grade Vernacular school for boys.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be considered.

133. Education and improvements to be effected in the town of Alleppey.

Mr. N. Subbaraya Shenoi (Member, T. I. C., Alleppey) said that the present system of education had led to very undesirable results, that the period of tutelage was too long, that it ought to begin when a pupil was 4 or 5 years old and go on till his 10th, 12th or 14th age when his aptitude should be tested and a different course suited to his inclinations and taste provided for him. Preferably a technical course should be thrown open to him. In conclusion, he entreated Government to arrange for the teaching of the various branches of technical education in all schools, departmental and private. The Member also requested that the pay of teachers in grant in-aid schools should be increased.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

134. Need for opening a High School at Haripad.

Mr. K. Velayudhan Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Haripad) detailed the circumstances under which the Haripad High School disappeared and then described the nature of the financial aid the people of the taluk had rendered towards the promotion of Vernacular and English education of the lower grade. He then explained the poverty of the people, and said that it was impossible for them to contribute towards a building for the High School. His request was that they should be exempted from the conditions that were being recently insisted on for opening High Schools and that a High School be opened by Government at Haripad at once.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

VIII. RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

135. Management of Sirkar and Ooranma Devaswoms.

Mr. Thrivikraman Vasudevan (Member, Jenmi, Padmanabhapuram Division) complained of the utter neglect which characterised the minor Devaswoms and to some extent the major ones also and observed that many of the temples taken over by Government had large landed properties. Those properties had become merged in the Sirkar lands and were treated as Pandarapattom at the Settlement and, in spite of the vast amount of wealth which was also taken possession of by Government along with the temple management, the temples suffered and in many of them no *pujas* were being performed; there were also cases in which expenditure of money was being brought to account though the temples or deities themselves did not exist. It was high time that an enquiry was made into the matter with the object of ascertaining the number of temples on which expenditure was being incurred without the material form either of temples or deities. Again, another serious defect of the present management of temples was that, while large sums were being received as *nadavaravus* in many rich temples such as those at Suchindram, Kumarakoil, etc., a large portion of them was being misappropriated. With a view to remove

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defects of the kind pointed out above and to enable proper supervision being exercised over the management of temples, it was highly desirable that the management of temples should be separated from the Land Revenue Department. Such a course would also remove the long-standing grievance of certain classes of His Highness' subjects who at present had no admission into the Land Revenue Department. But the separation should be done only after making out accurate lists of the properties which originally belonged to the several Devaswoms. The Government records would themselves furnish the required data and evidence. Under existing arrangements, it was made to appear that the Devaswoms were not self-supporting and that large sums of money from the general revenues were being spent annually on the Devaswoms. That was far from the truth. The examination suggested by him, if carefully conducted, would show that most Devaswoms had enough properties to yield large savings after meeting all expenditure. Mr. Ramachandra Row's report would also tell the same tale. He requested that the above matters might receive the careful consideration of Government, before the contemplated separation of Devaswom management from the Revenue Department was effected.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

136. Need for remedying the defects in the principle adopted for the revision of the *pathivus* in Sirkar Devaswoms.

Mr. P. Narayanan Bhattathiri (Member, Jenmi, Quilon Division) requested that, in the matter of the revision of *pathivus*, the advice of the *tantris*, *ooranmakars* and other *stanis* of the temple concerned, should be taken. There were several temples whose vast landed properties had been taken over by Government when the temples passed into their hands. There were many cases in which the Government had violently departed from carrying out the obligations and terms under which the *ooranmakars* permitted the Government to take over the management of their temples. Not only were those sacred obligations not honoured, but some of those temples had since been classed as 'minor' and the inhabitants were being asked to restore or re-build temples which had become non-existent. That was distinctly a rule of might over justice. As an instance, the Member mentioned that, in the Kavumbhagom *pakuthi*, Thiruvalla taluk, there was the Anurudheswaram temple which was the property of a Malayala Brahmin called Matathilokathu *alias* Azhiyatathillam. The *Illam* had large landed properties which were taken possession of by Government, and as a result of the temple having been classed as a minor Devaswom, the temple was now in a deplorable condition. If with the co-operation of the people an enquiry were made, several such cases would come to light. Whenever pollution occurred in a temple in any form, an enquiry was started to decide what steps should be taken as a palliative. Such an enquiry took time and defeated the very object of conducting pollution ceremonies. In the appointment of *santis* there were several factors to be taken into consideration in regard to their qualifications for the post. It was better to lay down that no appointment of a *santi* should be made without a certificate from the *tantri* of the temple concerned. The Member then pointed out that, in the present revision of *pathivus*, the provision made for some articles under *akathepaditharam* and for remuneration to Tantries was quite inadequate. As against that, there was extravagant provision under other items. He requested that Government should look into those things and order that the Tantries should be freely consulted before the revised *pathivus* are sanctioned.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

137. Need for the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the working of Devaswoms under the management of the Sirkar with a view to remedy the defects and irregularities existing at present.

Mr. Devan Vasudevan Nampiathiri (Member, Jenmi, Kottayam Division) deplored the present condition of the Devaswoms and observed that, though reforms were introduced about 10 or 12 years ago as a result of the recommendations of Mr. M. K. Ramachandra Row, their management had not improved very much. On the other hand, the complaint about mismanagement had become louder and keener. The reason for all that was that the public were not consulted and their views were not taken on the recommendations of Mr. Ramachandra Row. Though an officer of the

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